

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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Remarks:

Executive Secretary  
30 August 1982  
Date

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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August 27, 1982

(WITH ~~TOP SECRET~~ ATTACHMENT)

MEMORANDUM TO MR. WILLIAM P. CLARK  
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: U.S. Strategy Towards the Horn of Africa:  
Draft NSDD

Attached are the IG Study Paper, an Executive Summary and a proposed NSDD outlining the conclusions and recommendations of the Horn of Africa Interagency Group responsive to NSDD No. 8 of April 12, 1982. The proposed NSDD sets out a comprehensive and coordinated U.S. strategy towards the countries and issues in this region. The Study Paper sets forth the rationale supporting these recommendations.

Early action is requested to approve the proposed NSDD, which has unanimous SIG-level interagency clearance. The Study Paper is submitted for the record.

*L. Paul Bremer, III*  
L. Paul Bremer, III  
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Proposed NSDD
2. Executive Summary
3. Study Paper

Copies to:

OVP	- Mr. Donald P. Gregg
NSC	- Mr. Michael O. Wheeler
AID	- Mr. Gerald Pagano
CIA	- [Redacted]
Defense	- Col. John Stanford
ICA	- Ms. Teresa Collins
JCS	- Maj. Dennis Stanley
OMB	- Mr. William Schneider
Treasury	- Mr. David Pickford

CIA TS 820334

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NSDD#8

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PROPOSED  
NATIONAL SECURITY  
DECISION DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: NSDD 8-82: U.S. Strategy Towards the Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa is important to the United States primarily because of its strategic location with respect to the Persian Gulf/Southwest Asia region. The objectives of U.S. strategy toward the Horn are:

- To gain and consolidate U.S. military access to regional facilities;

- To deter and counter attacks or destabilization efforts against friendly states;

- To improve the economic health and internal political security of friendly states;

- To work for the resolution of local conflicts;  
and

- To reduce and ultimately remove Soviet and Soviet-proxy presence and influence.

In order to achieve these objectives, the U.S. shall pursue a comprehensive and coordinated strategy towards the countries and issues in this region. This strategy shall consist of the following specific elements:

With respect to Somalia:

- To consolidate our military access to Somali facilities by completing currently planned military construction projects.

- To enhance Somalia's ability to deter limited Ethiopian air and ground incursions and to enable Somalia to defend itself against Ethiopian/Libyan supported guerrilla attacks. This will require within the overall budget levels giving greater priority to security assistance for Somalia.

- To enhance deterrence of aggression against Somalia with other direct actions including a gradual increase in the frequency and level of military exercises in Somalia, avoiding

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